

“binding,” and will not agree to subscribe to and act in accord with anything that my judgment condemns. I rather think the systematic botanists will do the same. The “non-systematic botanists” may join together and repeal the Rochester Code, and all the other codes that were ever enacted, and yet that will not bring a return to the unsatisfactory and fast decaying system that they are trying to save. Dr. Winter applied the principle of priority even in the polymorphic fungi, and his work was never rejected nor his system condemned. In phenogamic botany, the reform has been virtually accomplished, and those who have been using it for some years will hardly turn backward. As intimated above, we are assured of sufficient literature for the near future for the convenience of the botanists who are working in other lines than systematic botany; sufficient also to enable all the progressive teachers to teach and to put in the hands of their pupils and students a nomenclature that can not give them trouble in the future.—W. A. KELLERMAN, *Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 24th.*

NOTES AND NEWS.

LOUIS PASTEUR died at his home near St. Cloud, France, on Saturday, September 28th, in the seventy-third year of his age.

MR. GEO. MURRAY has been appointed custodian of the botanical department of the British Museum in place of Wm. Carruthers resigned.

PROF. L. M. UNDERWOOD has accepted the chair of biology in the Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn. He has returned from his vacation in Europe, and has already entered upon his new duties.

THE DEATH OF C. C. BABINGTON, professor of botany in Cambridge University (Eng.) occurred July 22d. He was 86 years of age, and had not been botanically active for more than a score of years. By his death this important chair of botany is left vacant.

PROF. G. F. ATKINSON notes that *Podophyllum peltatum* is to be added to the list of plants having an open style canal leading into the cavity of the ovary. The canal is a very wide and shallow one appearing in cross section as a crescent-shaped or broadly V-shaped slit, which lies transversely to the placental line.

MEINSHAUSEN¹ has lately published a monograph of the genus *Sparganium*. He discusses the geographical distribution and gives several interesting instances of the local occurrence of various forms. Seventeen species are enumerated with diagnoses in Latin. The following are new to science: *S. splendens*, *simile*, *Glehnii*, *subvaginatum*, *flaccidum* and *pusillum*.—T. H.

¹K. F. Meinshausen: Genre *Sparganium* L. Description systématique des espèces et leur distribution géographique d'après les observations faites au Gouvernement de St. Pétersbourg. Bull. de l'Acad. imp. d. sc. de St. Pétersbourg. N. S. 4: 21-41.

THE STRUCTURE of a gall upon the stem of *Chondrilla juncea* is described by Gain.¹ The insect which produces it is a new species of *Aulax*, for which the author proposes the name of *A. Chondrillæ*. The larvæ were found in cavities formed in the pith, and it would appear that the lignified cellulose of this tissue furnishes the only nourishment for the parasite. The development of these galls did not injure the growth of the host. On the contrary the plant developed an abundance of sound achenes, and the galls seemed merely to have modified the ramification, each gall giving rise to five or even six lateral branches.—T. H.

IT SEEMS quite like "old times" for descriptions of new species from the Gray Herbarium to appear in *Am. Jour. Sci.* This last contribution is by Dr. Robinson and Mr. Greenman, and is in four parts: 1. "On the flora of the Galapagos Islands, as shown by the collection of Dr. G. Baur," an interesting discussion of the peculiar harmonic and divergent characters of the plants, with descriptions of new species; 2. "New or noteworthy plants, chiefly from Oaxaca," being a description of the numerous novelties of the recent collections of Pringle, Smith, and Nelson, among which are two new genera, *Oaxacania* (Compositæ), and *Urostephanus* (Asclepiadaceæ); 3. "A synoptic revision of the genus *Lamourouxia*" (twenty-six species); 4. "Miscellaneous new species."

BOTANY AND ZOOLOGY are becoming badly entangled again with "microscopy." As something that deals with methods, the latter has an important place; as dealing with botanical and zoological results it is out of its domain. At the last meeting of the American Microscopical Society, among the papers presented, the following titles suggest botanical rather than microscopical results: "Corky outgrowth of roots and their connection with respiration," H. Schrenk; "The chlorophyll bodies of *Chara coronata*," W. W. Rowlee; "Secondary thickenings of the rootstalks of *Spathyema*," Mary A. Nichols; "Two cases of intercellular spaces in vegetable embryos," K. M. Wiegand; "The fruits of the order Umbelliferæ," E. J. Durand; "The flagella of motile bacteria," V. A. Moore; "The fruits of the order Compositæ." W. W. Rowlee and K. M. Wiegand.

GEOSIRIS APHYLLA is a new plant of the family *Iridaceæ*, which has been discovered on Madagascar, where it grows on sandy soil in woods. Baillon² describes it and supposes that it is a saprophyte, since the plant has no green leaves. The parts under ground are unknown, and the aerial stem is simple or slightly ramified, reaching a height of about one decimeter. The leaves are reduced to short, ovate bracts, and the inflorescence is like that of our common *Iris*, only in a smaller scale. The perianth is white and has a strongly infundibuliform tubers. The plant has several characters in common with the *Burmanniaceæ* of Madagascar. The form of the anthers and the position of the stamens in alternation with the inner perianth-lobes does not, however, agree with the *Burmanniaceæ* but with the *Iridaceæ*. We have, therefore, in this plant a representative of the *Iridaceæ* with no green leaves.—T. H.

¹E. Gain: Sur une galle du *Chondrilla juncea* L. Bull. de la soc. bot. de France. 41: —. 1894.

²H. Baillon, Une Iridacée sans matière verte. Bull. mens. de la soc. Linnéenne de Paris. no. 145. 1894.

AT ITS RECENT meeting in Springfield, the Botanical Society of America decided to deposit donations to its library in the library of the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, where they will be accessible to members of the society and other botanists under the general rules of the garden library. Donations to the society's library should, therefore, be sent to the above address, plainly marked "for the Botanical Society of America."

MR. F. BØRGESEN gives an enumeration of fresh-water Algæ from East-Greenland,¹ which is the more welcome, since the flora of that part of Greenland is almost unknown to us. About 100 species of *Desmidiæ* are enumerated, of which forty-one belong to the genus *Cosmarium*, and twenty-nine to *Staurastrum*. The *Myxophyceæ* are represented by fifteen genera with about thirty species. The most frequent were *Stigonema* and *Gloeocapsa*, which formed the main part of the black stripes on the rocks, so frequently observed in the landscape.—T. H.

AMONG THE GRANTS made by the A. A. A. S. for 1895-6 were the following in aid of biological subjects: for printing a second edition of the "Rules for citation," \$5.00, for a research table at Woods Hole, \$100.00, for publication of an international bibliography of zoology, \$250.00. The Association table at Woods Hole has so far been occupied by zoölogists, and it was the feeling of many of the members in attendance at Springfield that it should go to the botanists next year, if suitable application were made. The committee consists of the vice-presidents of Sections F and G and the director of the laboratory: viz. Messrs. Theodore N. Gill, Washington, D. C., N. L. Britton, New York, N. Y., and C. O. Whitman, University of Chicago.

THE PRESENCE of tendrils or clasping filaments in *Sepultaria Sumneriana* Cooke (*Peziza lanuginosa Sumneri* Berk. et Br.) has lately been observed by Boudier.² Filaments of this character have not been met with frequently among the fungi. Hyphæ or hairs more or less coiled have, however, been noticed in various genera. In the species of *Sepultaria* mentioned above, the author found that the mycelium or more properly the mycelium-like hairs, which cover the cupule like a woolly tomentum, bore small clumps which were formed by other filaments coiling around each other like the tendrils of the phanerogams. These were especially numerous when the fungus grew in a loose, gravelly soil, where the filaments had more space for their development, while they were scarcer when the fungus had grown in a stiff, compact soil. These peculiar tendrils develop from small tubercles and grow into small branches, simple or bifurcated, and which coil up as soon as they come in contact with other filaments. The filament which in this way becomes embraced by the cirrus or tendril simply serves as a support, and no change was observed to take place in the protoplasm. In cases where the tendrils do not meet any of the neighboring filaments, they coil up around the same filament, from which they have developed. It is very likely that such tendrils may be met with in other species of *Sepultaria*, especially in those species, that grow in open, gravelly soil.—T. H.

¹ Færskvandsalger fra Ostgrønland. Meddel. om Grønland 17: —. 1894.

²E. Boudier: Sur une nouvelle observation de présence de vrilles ou filaments cirroïdes préhenseurs chez les Champignons. Bull. de la soc. bot. de France 41: —. 1894.